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TPZK (Artisan Production and Labor Associations) Fulfill Plan
for First Half Year

Vecherni Novini, Sofia, 3 Oct 1951

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TPZK's (ARTISAN PRODUCTION AND LABOR ASSOCIATIONS) FULFILL PLAN
FOR FIRST HALF YEAR -- Sofia, Vecherni Novini, 3 Oct 51

Working artisans participate actively in the building of the new socialist economy in Bulgaria. Organized in TPZK's (Artisan Production and Labor Associations), they contribute their share in socialist construction.

The total industrial production of TPZK's for the first half of the current year amounts to 94 percent of that planned in standard prices, and to 102 percent in current prices. A number of TPZK's have already reorganized their work and deal in services and piece work. The TPZK's in Burgas Rayon have over-fulfilled their plan for piece work by 120 percent. The "1 May" Leather TPZK at Burgas has fulfilled its plan for services by 300 percent and the TPZK at Aytos -- by 160 percent. The footwear TPZK's in Kolarovgrad Rayon have fulfilled their plan for piece work by 296 percent and the woodworking TPZK's have fulfilled their plan for services by 165 percent. In Turnovo Rayon the plan for piece work has been fulfilled by the footwear branch by 132 percent and the plan for services by 103 percent. The "V. Kolarov" TPZK at Khaskovo has fulfilled its plan for the repair of farm equipment by 108 percent.

A number of TPZK's have used waste materials successfully for their production. The "Biser" TPZK at Sofia which produces different spare parts uses 80 percent waste materials for its work, and in spite of that the quality of its production is not inferior to production using regular materials. The "Stomana" (Steel) TPZK at Silistra produces primus stoves, petroleum lamps, wind-proof lanterns, etc. for which it uses mainly waste materials.

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These articles have to be imported from abroad and to procure them the country has to export valuable goods, but the ones produced by the "Stomana" TPZK, although made of waste materials, are not inferior to the imported ones and serve the same purpose. The "Metalik" TPZK at Razgrad produces plowshares for tractor-drawn ploughs mainly from waste materials. The same TPZK also repairs the cylinder heads of "Shkoda" truck engines and thereby saves millions of leva in foreign currency yearly.

The elimination of the ration system for industrial products greatly stimulated the improvement of production quality of TPZK's. A large number of TPZK's take extensive measures for improving the quality of their production. At the fashion shows organized in almost all okrug centers the improvement achieved in the quality of textiles was clearly demonstrated. After such a fashion show the "Suglasie" (Consent) Dressmakers' TPZK at Ruse greatly improved the quality of its production and put more than 40 different designs of dresses on the market.

Certain TPZK's have also been successful in the struggle to reduce production costs. The "Narodna Mebel" (People's Furniture) TPZK at Sofia has reduced its production costs for the first half of the year by 9.63 percent instead of the 5 percent which it had pledged to achieve.

Notwithstanding the undisputed successes achieved, the TPZK's still suffer from serious weaknesses. In many of them quasi-cooperators who have managed to sneak in as members are still to be found. The wealth of Soviet experience is not being applied in every one of them and not all of them carry on a systematic and consistent struggle for better quality production. Not all TPZK's respond wholeheartedly to the needs of the population for repairs and services.

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The results obtained till now, though, are proof that with systematic and extensive explanatory work the TPZK's will generally improve their activity and assume an honorable place in the Bulgarian national economy.

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